

NWS GRAND JUNCTION COLORADO



A LOOK
BACK AT

FEBRUARY 2022
WEATHER ACROSS E UTAH / W COLORADO

The month of February started cool and wet, with the tail end of a winter storm bringing snow to the San Juan Mountains. While sunshine returned fairly quickly, the cold temperatures stuck around, with some of the lowest lows of the month occurring during the first week. The strong inversion that set up across the Upper Yampa Basin kept temperatures well below normal for the entire month. Weak waves of low pressure swung through on a nearly weekly basis, bringing light snowfall for the mountains through the middle of the month. A significant winter storm finally set its sights on eastern Utah and western Colorado from the 21st through the 24th, and brought snow to all portions of the region. The month closed out much as it began, with below normal temperatures despite sunny skies.



FEBRUARY 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



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NOTE: all data mentioned is collected from our automated observing stations from 10 airports across the area. Some observers in more remote areas DECEMBER have measured warmer or colder temperatures, or more or less precipitation than mentioned in this summary.

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STORY OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY 21ST-24TH SNOW STORM

A multiday storm system composed of multiple waves of low pressure pummeled eastern Utah and western Colorado at the end of the month. This system brought snow to all parts of the area, from the lowest desert valleys to the highest mountain peaks. Bands of heavier snow moving through on the 23rd led to rapidly changing and treacherous travel conditions, especially along the I-70 corridor. These bands also brought an extra quick inch or two of snow on top of what had already fallen. Lowest elevations saw 2-6 inches, higher valleys saw 8-12, and mountain areas saw multiple feet of snow.

Courtesy of CDOT

Courtesy of CDOT

F E B R U A R Y
2 0 2 2

TEMPERATURES



Location	Average Temp (°F) (VS Normal)	Warmest Temp (°F)	Coldest Temp (°F)
Aspen, CO	21.0 (-4.2)	48 on 2/15	-12 on 2/3
Cortez, CO	30.5 (-2.3)	61 on 2/11	0 on 2/4
Craig, CO	13.0 (-9.2)	44 on 2/20	-25 on 2/3, 26
Durango, CO	28.5 (-1.2)	54 on 2/11	-8 on 2/3
Grand Junction, CO	31.6 (-3.7)	55 on 2/15, 20	11 on 2/4, 5, 24
Meeker, CO	19.0 (-7.4)	49 on 2/20	-15 on 2/3
Montrose, CO	29.8 (-3.9)	58 on 2/15, 20	4 on 2/3, 4
Rifle, CO	25.4 (-6.2)	50 on 2/11, 15, 20	-3 on 2/3
Canyonlands Airport, UT	32.6 (-3.2)	62 on 2/20	6 on 2/3
Vernal, UT	25.9 (-1.4)	58 on 2/11	-6 on 2/25

F E B R U A R Y
2 0 2 2

PRECIPITATION



Location	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
Aspen, CO	1.05	+0.15
Cortez, CO	0.60	-0.41
Craig, CO	0.37	-0.52
Durango, CO	0.59	-0.52
Grand Junction, CO	0.47	-0.06
Meeker, CO	0.56	-0.20
Montrose, CO	0.19	-0.23
Rifle, CO	0.09	-0.51
Canyonlands Airport, UT	0.25	-0.16
Vernal, UT	0.24	-0.32

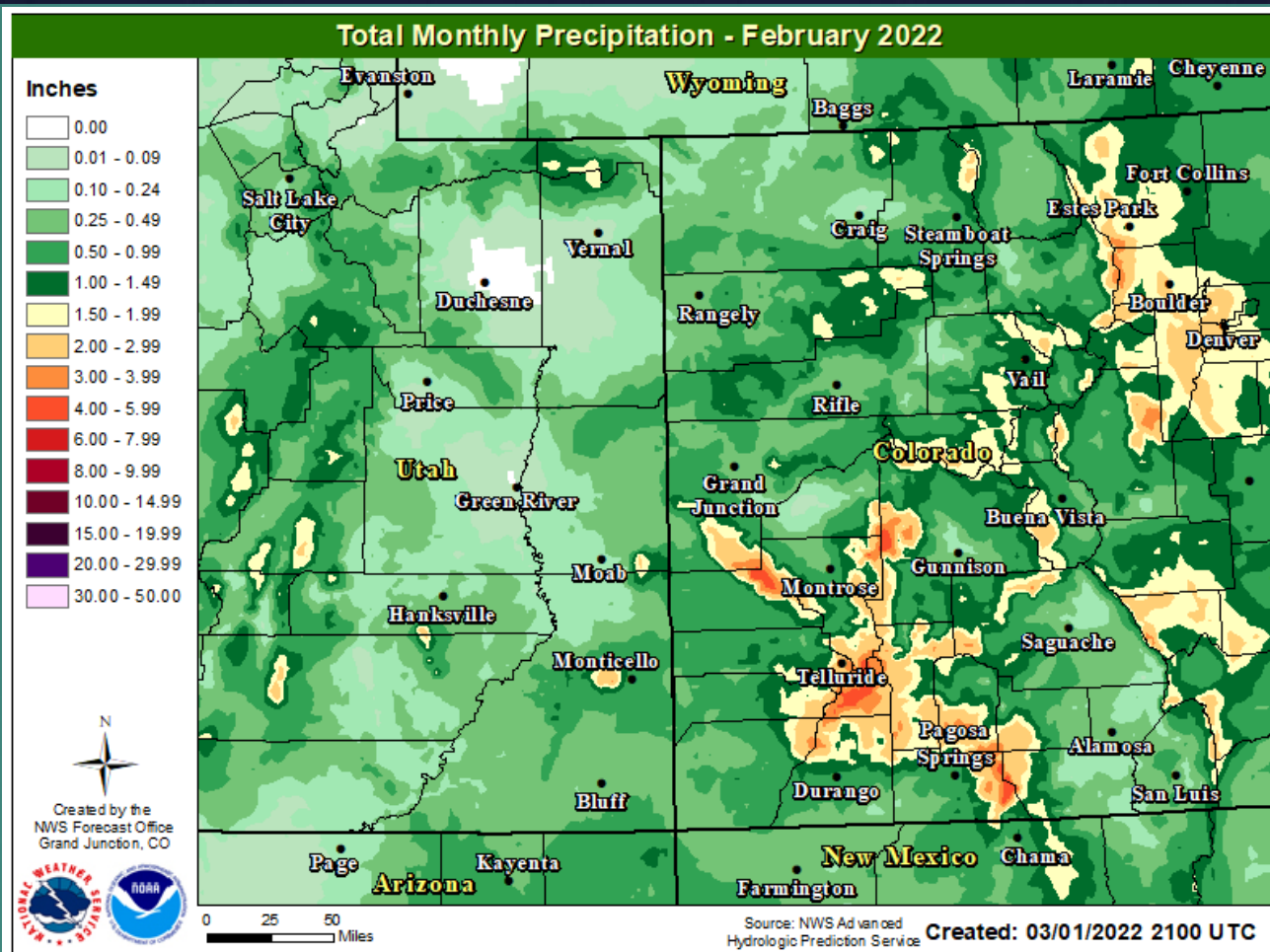
FEBRUARY 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



TOTAL
MONTHLY

PRECIPITATION



FEBRUARY 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



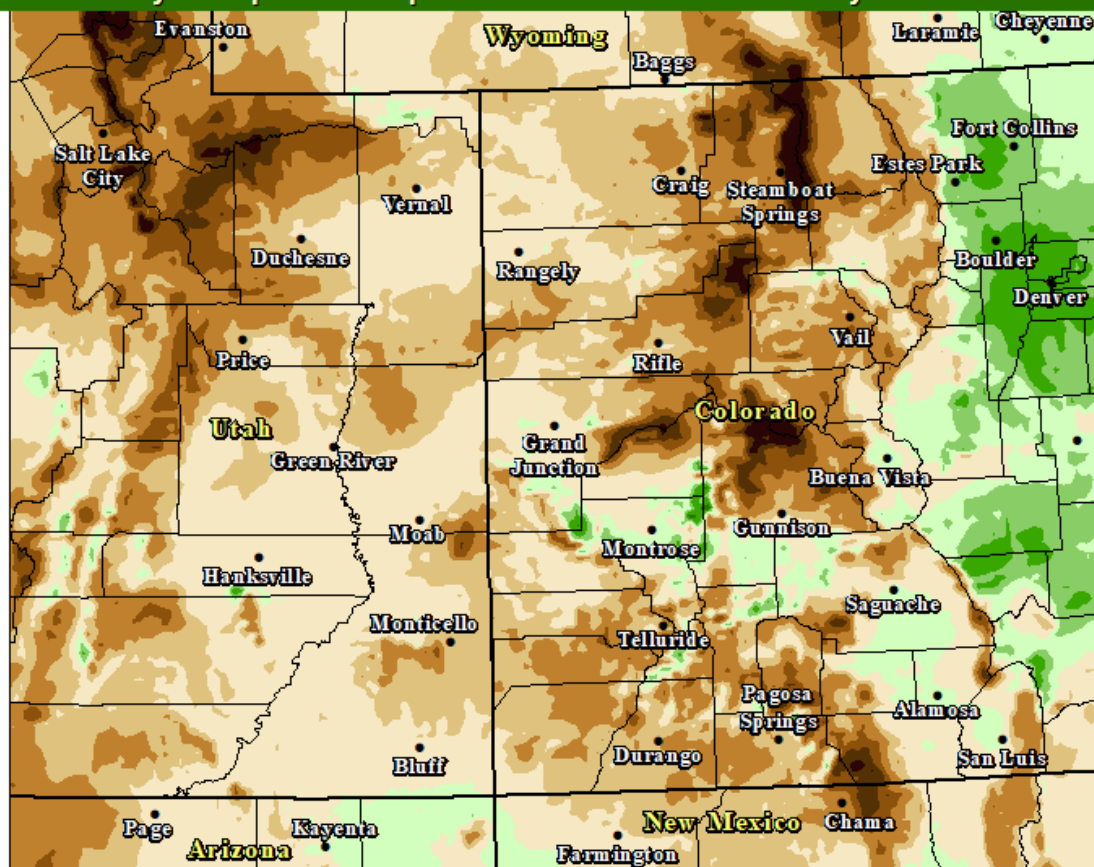
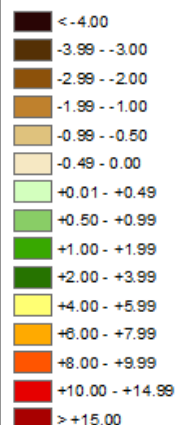
TOTAL
MONTHLY

PRECIPITATION

DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL

Total Monthly Precipitation Departure From Normal - February 2022

Inches



Created by the
NWS Forecast Office
Grand Junction, CO



0 25 50
Miles

Source: NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service
Created: 03/01/2022 2100 UTC

FEBRUARY 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



DAILY
RECORDS

R E P O R T

A total of 1 daily record was set across the primary climate sites

Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
Grand Junction, CO	February 23rd	Max Rainfall	0.33 inches	0.32 inches in 1906

High Max

Low Max

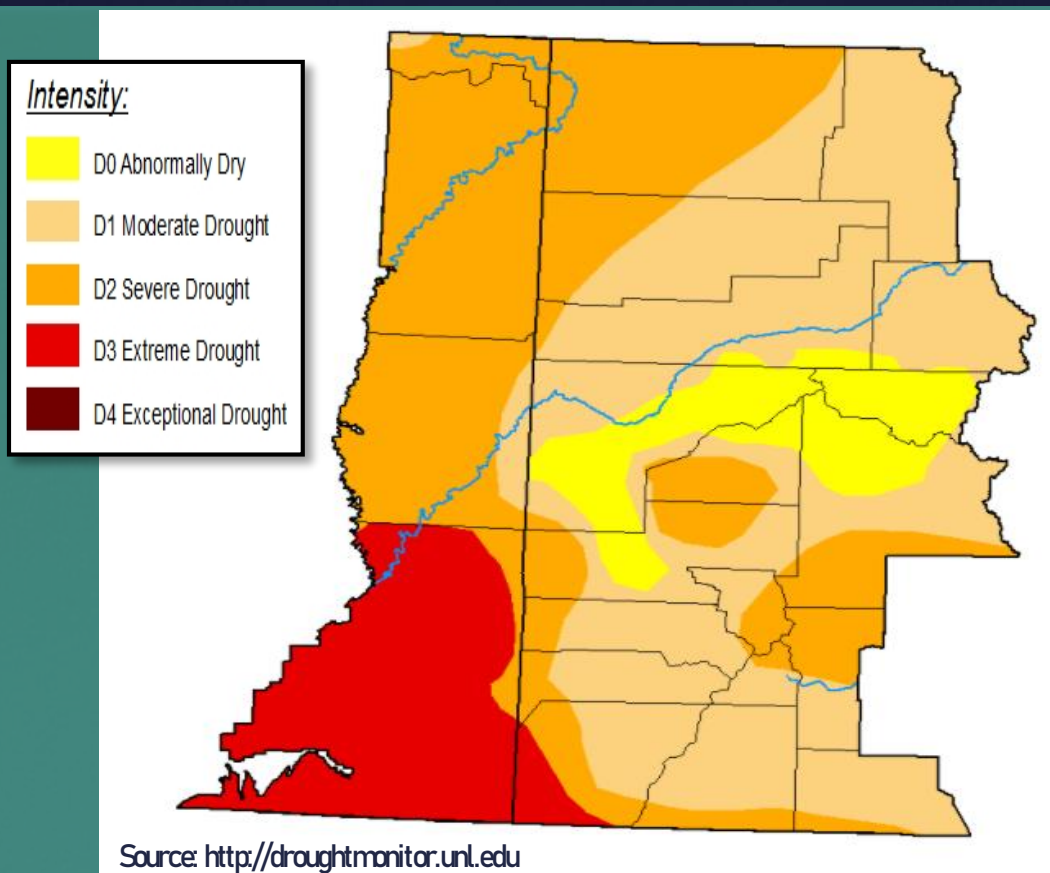
Precip

High Min

Low Min



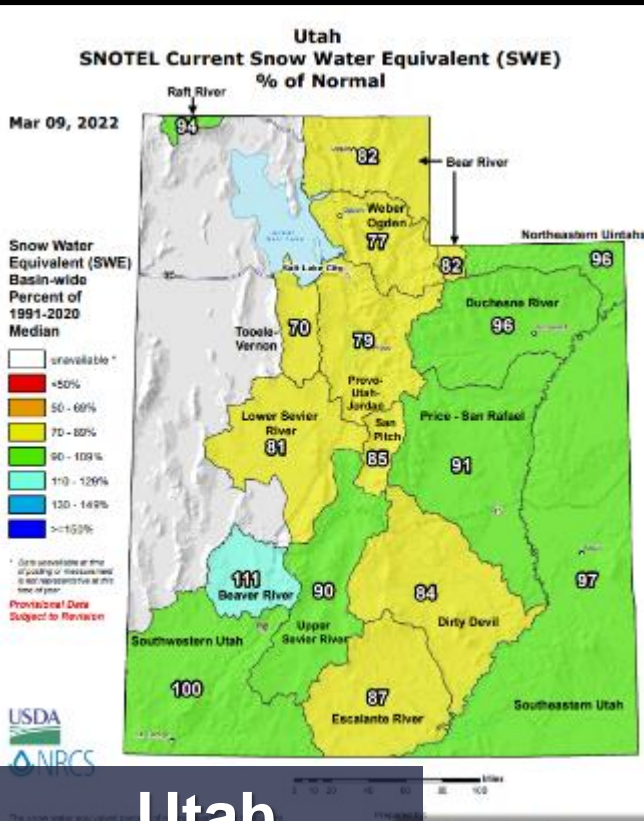
Extreme (D3) continues for southeast Utah and extreme southwest Colorado. Improvement from Extreme (D3) to Severe (D2) drought occurred for northwest Colorado, while areas across the northeastern portions of the area, along the Divide, worsened from Abnormally Dry (D0) to Moderate Drought (D1). A slight expansion to the Severe (D2) drought across the eastern San Juan Mountains also occurred over the last month.



SNOWPACK CONDITIONS

UPDATE

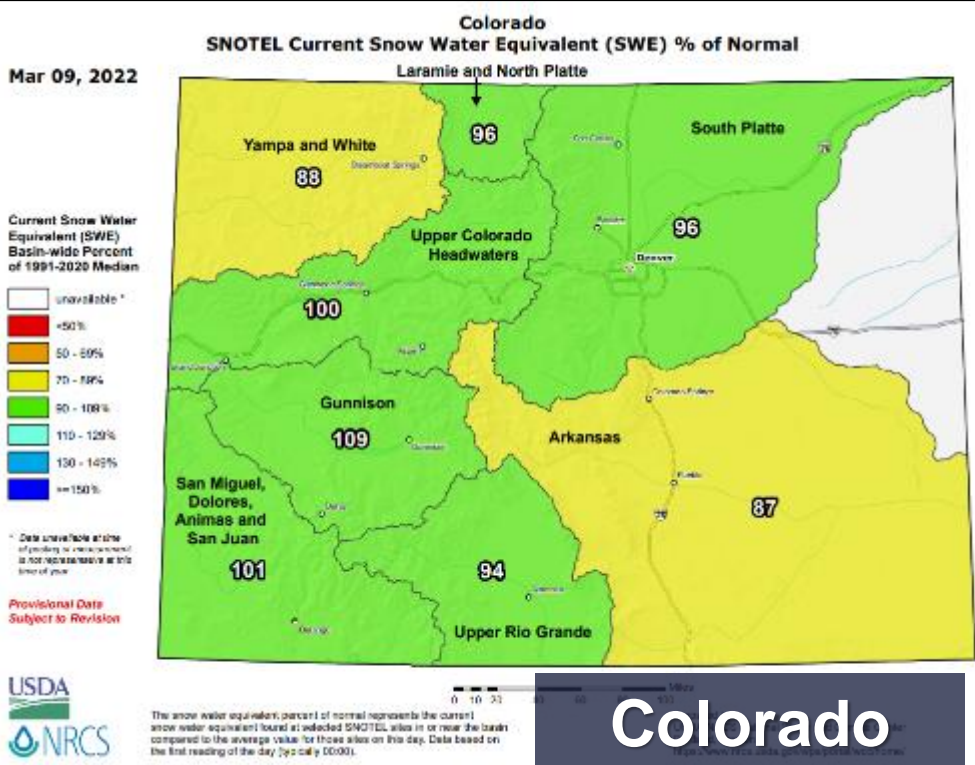
AS OF MARCH 9TH



For eastern Utah... The snow pack for the eastern Utah basins currently sits at 90-100% of normal.

For western Colorado, the Yampa and White basin is at 80-90% of normal, the Gunnison basin is at 100-110% of normal, and the remaining western Colorado basins are at 90-100% of normal.

Utah



M A R C H
2 0 2 2

OUTLOOK

TEMPERATURES & PRECIPITATION



Below

**Equal
Chances**

Temperatures

Above

For March, the outlook from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) shows below normal temperatures favored for northwest Colorado and northeast Utah. The remainder of the area is not favored for above or below normal temperatures. Guidance favors below normal precipitation for southern Colorado. The rest of eastern Utah and western Colorado are not favored for above or below normal precipitation.

Above

Precipitation

**Equal
Chances**

Below